



**INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM
UNIVERSITY/COMMUNITY RELATIONS TASK FORCE**

DATE: October 27, 2005

TO: Rosemary DePaolo, Chancellor, University of North Carolina at Wilmington
Spence Broadhurst, Mayor, City of Wilmington

FROM: Jennie McNeilly, Assistant Dean of Students, University of North Carolina at Wilmington *JH*
Dewey Harris, Director, Community Services Department, City of Wilmington

RE: Report for the Period July 1, 2005 – October 31, 2005 *ADH*

The University/Community Relations Task Force (UCRTF) is pleased to present this report to you which summarizes key activities for the aforementioned period. As indicated in our previous report for the period ending June 30, 2005, some quality of life problems identified by residents can be addressed from a regulatory approach, while others result from lifestyle choices which can be better addressed through education of students and residents.

As you know, the UCRTF has continued to meet to (1) examine a variety of issues related to the University of North Carolina at Wilmington's (UNCW) impact on City of Wilmington neighborhoods; and (2) make recommendations to the University and City for action while developing partnerships and shared responsibility for managing these issues. Citizen participation continues to be an integral component of the UCRTF process.

Of particular interest this reporting period will be the following:

- At its October 12 meeting, the UCRTF decided to work with the respective agencies to target the dozen or so most problematic properties on College Acres and Clear Run Drives. This program called "Operation Good Neighbor" is designed to deliver the maximum enforcement authority for crime, solid waste, parking and student behavioral problems for properties that have exhibited current and historical problems. This program will target property owners (through City enforcement activity) and students through UNCW educational opportunities. City and UNCW staff will meet with their respective attorneys on steps required to implement this program, which if successful will be expanded to other University area neighborhoods.
- On October 4th, fifteen UNCW students and staff participated in a "Neighborhood Walk" of College Acres, Carlton Place and Dixon Acres (Hillsdale, Charter and Wesley Streets) communities to encourage students to be good neighbors and inform them of their responsibilities in the surrounding communities while living off-campus. Each residence received a door hanger which included a letter from Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, Pat Leonard, addressed to students and residents, a flyer on "Top 10 Ways to be a Good Neighbor", information about the City of Wilmington noise ordinance and state alcohol laws, a "Safe Relate" bookmark, and website links to the *Code of Student Life* and *Off-*

Campus Living Guide. The “Neighborhood Walk” initiative has become an annual event sponsored by Student Government Association and the Office of the Dean of Students.

- The Council of Neighborhood Associations Executive Board has scheduled a Landlord Training Seminar in November 2005. Representatives from the City Attorney’s office will teach this seminar on space provided by UNCW. To ensure maximum participation, a media campaign will be planned around this event.

Enforcement, capacity building, and education recommendations, as well as the status for each follow.

	RECOMMENDATION		
	ENFORCEMENT	STATUS	COMMENTS:
1.	Eliminate the second Solid Waste violation warning and assess a \$50.00 civil fine.	COMPLETED	Completed: August 1, 2004
2.	Support Code Enforcement and Solid Waste Management requests for additional resources (staffing).	COMPLETED IN PROGRESS	Code Enforcement approved for coordinator position. Completed: July 1, 2004. Additional Solid Waste resources will be considered as part of City’s 2005-06 budget.
3.	Review effectiveness of City ordinance (definition of family) and enforcement criteria by the proper authorities within the City.	COMPLETED	Although difficult to enforce, no change recommended to City ordinance. Recommended increasing public education regarding current ordinance. In addition recommend that City Information Technology Services staff explore feasibility of merging databases to provide enforcement staff (code enforcement, solid waste, police department with current property owner and tenant information.
4.	Conduct a “windshield survey” of parking violations around the University to obtain documentation/data necessary to develop parking recommendations.	COMPLETED	Remedies discussed to resolve excessive parking on and lawns and right of way included: a dedicated hotline for non-emergency complaints (341-4255) at the New Hanover County public safety communications office; UNCW education material to off-campus housed students and landlords and their rental responsibilities; and enforcement of complaints by the police, code enforcement, and solid waste City staff.
	CAPACITY BUILDING	STATUS	COMMENTS:
5.	Reinstate the adopt-a-street program.	IN PROGRESS	To be considered as part of 2005-06 budget
6.	Implement community service projects.	ONGOING	Center for Leadership Education and Service is currently reviewing community service projects to include local neighborhood clean-up days and street sweeps. Completed: January 12, 2005

7.	Make trash stickers more available to students through campus purchase.	COMPLETED	Completed: January 12, 2005
8.	Establish a clear enrollment plan.	ONGOING	Task being addressed by UNCW's Master Plan design team in coordination with Task Force.
9.	Support the recommendations of the University's Housing Task Force.	ONGOING	Quarterly updates will be provided to the Task Force by Housing and Residence Life Director, Brad Reid.

	EDUCATION	STATUS	COMMENTS:
10.	Educate students on their legal obligations related to living within City limits.	ONGOING	Currently being addressed through Seahawk Perch website, educational materials and Neighborhood Walks in local communities.
11.	Distribute information to landlords to educate them of their responsibilities (i.e. City water bills).	COMPLETED	Completed: December 2004
12.	Update City trash & recycling information brochure to inform new accounts of the \$50 civil fine and list most common violations.	COMPLETED	Completed: August 1, 2004
13.	Work with students to provide information regarding proper trash disposal practices.	ONGOING	Completed: December 2004
14.	Expand current commuter student website.	ONGOING	Continuous review to accommodate current needs and provide appropriate links to city and local resources.
15.	Encourage the public to use the non-emergency number (341-4255) to report parking, party, and noise problems, so calls can be logged into the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) System.	IN PROGRESS	Communications plan developed by County Public Safety Communications Center (911) staff, as well as, UNCW, and City WPD information staff. The announcement was done by Cape Fear Community College students and will be followed by others. The announcements will be run on ABC, NBC, Fox, Government television and City and University websites.

LEGEND	
COMPLETED	The recommendation has been implemented.
ON-GOING	The initial work has been completed; however continual or periodic work is required.
IN-PROGRESS	This recommendation is being addressed by the Task Force. Additional steps are needed

Thank you in advance for your review of this report. Should you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

cc: Sterling Cheatham, City Manager, City of Wilmington
University/Community Relations Task Force members